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To: Microsoft ATR
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The 9 remaining constituents that want to pursue litigation against Microsoft need to wake up! It is abominable that they would use the justice system to continue down the path of getting the government to help them with their competitive strategy. It seems that they are not going to be satisfied until Microsoft is so neutered that it is impossible for it to continue doing business in a way that helps the american economy and provides very decent business processes.

We begged for someone in the 80s to consolidate the various datasets and enable/empower the end user to be able to share data, work interoperably between mainframes, and bring sublime expertise into software, so we would be much less reliant upon individual software vendors to come in with their consultants, their MIS directors, etc. to help us build a simple spreadsheet, or document management environment. So, Microsoft enters the picture and works toward consolidating a PC environment for empowering the digital worker. They did it right. They did it to the glee of the buyer, as is evidenced by the extreme popularity of the software environment. The customers simply did not suffer. In fact, being a Microsoft employee, I've never heard a customer tell me that Microsoft did them wrong. They only tell me how powerful the software is, and how it helps them get things done!

As Microsoft expanded its own knowledge of the computing environment, it looked for improved processes, improved software architectures, improved features. They innovated to the delight of the consumer, again evidenced by the popularity of the Office Products, the OS iterations both as clients and servers, then as a browser, enabling emancipated publishing to the web. Then, the web enters the picture as a huge opportunity for international global digital development and Mirosoft simply changes its focus to a new platform that would help internationalize digital business processes.

The competitors need to compete on innovative capability, not further litigation. Get back to work! This is a time we need unity and parity, not division and imbalance. These 9 constituents need to work harder to figure out how to build enabling and empowering tools for the end user, not looking for ways to dig into the Microsoft coffers that are targeted for improving business, education and human society. We speak a lingua franca because of Microsoft and it's what we asked for, we cannot blame Microsoft for enabling us with its lingua franca and enormous capabilities to perform as businesses.

Whatever errors in judgement were made by the burgeoning, never before seen software industry with Microsoft at its helm have been addressed

with a settlement put in place that accomodates for this evolution. Microsoft is not a malicious company. I moved here myself from Sun, and I find the company to be mature, principled, focused, innovative and strongly competitive. They were young kids when they started (in their 20s), and they emerged quickly, learned hard lessons, and have been focused on enabling people since then. This is not your father's Microsoft, it is a new Microsoft, and it is focused on helping people with software as never before. There are no barriers to entry. There are no monopolies preventing any company from entering this industry. In fact, Microsoft with its new .NET strategy is only going to enable more developers, and more businesses to succeed worldwide.

Let them alone. Let this settlement get us back to business of helping customers, and send a strong message back to these 9 consitutents who want to drag this out that you cannot use the government as a competitive advantage. The government is neutral, meant to make it fair for all. We cannot allow our democratic system favor one individual over another.

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